

REMARKS

Present Status of the Application

Claims 9-16 remain pending and claims 9-16 are allowed. The Office Action objected the amendment filed on June 22, 2009 for introducing new matters. The Office Action further objected the specification for failing to comply with the requirements of 37 CFR 1.821-1.825.

The specification has been amended to cancel the newly added accession No. NG_007508.1. A new Sequence Listing incorporating related sequences of the Gene Bank Accession Number NM-022162 (as SEQ ID No. 13), **without** incorporating NG_007508.1 (as SEQ ID NO. 14) has been provided for clarification purposes. It is believed that the amendments are supported by the original specification and drawings of this application and can overcome the objections. Entry of the amendments to the specification is respectfully requested.

After entering the amendments and considering the following discussions, a notice of allowance is respectfully solicited.

Allowable subject matters

Applicant really appreciates the allowance indication of claims 9-16 from the Office Action dated October 10, 2009.

Regarding the new matters

The Office Action objected the amendment filed on June 22, 2009 for introducing new matters. Especially, the newly added accession No. NG_007508.1 (SEQ ID NO. 14).

In response to the Office Action, the specification has been amended to cancel the newly added accession No. NG_007508.1 (SEQ ID NO. 14). Also a new Sequence Listing without incorporating the sequence of the Gene Bank Accession Number NG_007508.1 (SEQ ID NO. 14) is submitted.

Regarding the objections

The Office Action objected the specification for failing to comply with the requirements of 37 CFR 1.821-1.825. The Office Action further pointed out that a statement that the CRF and the paper copy of sequence listing are the same and that no new matters has been added was not provided.

The previously added accession No. NG_007508.1 (SEQ ID NO. 14) has been cancelled from the specification and the Sequence Listing.

As discussed in the previous Response, from the description of the present application, one skilled in the art can identify the sequence part which describes the NOD2/CARD15 gene, when considering the Accession Number AC007728 (chromosome 16) together with the information concerning the position of the NOD2/CARD15 gene on chromosome 16 at page 2, lines 17-19 of the original specification. That is, on the basis of the sequence of chromosome 16 and locus information for NOD2/CARD15 gene, a person skilled in the art can easily identify the sequence

part which describes the NOD2/CARD15 gene.

In this case, a new Sequence Listing including additional sequences of the Gene Bank Accession Number NM-022162 (as SEQ ID NO. 13) is provided for easy references and clarification. Accordingly, the fourth paragraph of page 2 of the specification had been amended based on the previous amendments.

A new Sequence Listing incorporating original filed SEQ ID NOs. 1-12 and previously filed SEQ ID NO. 13 (without SEQ ID NO. 14) is submitted. Please find enclosed a new Sequence Listing in both computer readable form (CRF) and paper copy.

The undersigned hereby state that the paper and electronic versions of the newly submitted Sequence Listing are identical and do not include new matters.

Withdrawal of these objections is earnestly requested.

As discussed above, upon the entry of the above amendments and submission of the new Sequence Listing, the present application should be ready for allowance.

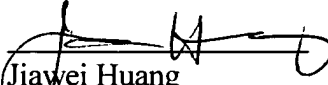
CONCLUSION

For at least the foregoing reasons, it is believed that the pending claims 9-16 and the specification of the present application are in proper condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would expedite the examination of the above-identified patent application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

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